

Geo V 3 I28 (I) I98I

Database: MI File 47

SIXTEENH-CENTURY ARCTIC SITE REEXPLORED

POLAR
PAM
5795

POLARPAM



Leavenworth Jackson

Sixteenth-Century Arctic Site Reexplored

British explorer Martin Frobisher's sixteenth-century Canadian base camp—the earliest known post-Viking European habitation in the North American Arctic—has been revisited and explored after more than four centuries of little scholarly or public attention. Frobisher spent the summers of 1576 to 1578 searching for the fabled Northwest Passage off southeastern Baffin Island, in the vicinity of a large bay that now bears his name. Though he never found the passage, his expedition produced major advances in Arctic exploration, geography and navigation, and his records contain the first mention of Eskimo, or Inuit, peoples.

Frobisher thought he had found huge deposits of gold ore. With support from Queen Elizabeth I, he made second and third voyages and set up a mining and exploration outpost. The "gold" turned out to be iron, but the settlement, on Kodlunarn Is-



Smithsonian

Anthropologist Fitzhugh

land in outer Frobisher Bay, is of prime historic importance.

Iron ingots were retrieved from the site in 1861, and recent radiocarbon analysis indicates that they predate Frobisher's expeditions by three centuries. To explain this apparent anomaly (the ingots might be of Norse origin or might have been smelted by Frobisher from local ore using centuries-old driftwood) and to ascertain other aspects of the settlement, a Smithsonian expedition under the leadership of anthropologist William Fitzhugh spent 10 days at the settlement in August.

The team mapped the settlement in detail and brought back artifacts, including two more ingots, from what appears to have been an assay

office, a smithy and other structures. Additional tests should resolve the question of the age and origin of the ingots, and a study of information gathered from Inuit sites in the area will reveal something even more fascinating: how contact with the Frobisher expedition and the artifacts it left behind has influenced cultural history in the area over the past 400 years.

TVs and Radios Around the World

With 2,041 sets per 1,000 inhabitants—or more than two per person—oil-rich Qatar is also the world's most television-rich country. Not surprisingly, the United States is close to the top of the list, with 623 television sets per 1,000 people. According to the United Nations, which compiled these statistics, there are still more radios than televisions almost everywhere on earth.

TVs Radios	
Country (per 1,000 people)	
Argentina	117 384
Australia	357 1,037
Austria	262* 275

Bangladesh	0.0 6
Congo	2.4 61
Cuba	83 197
Denmark	471 825
E. Germany	325 895
Egypt	26 136
Ethiopia	1 7
Finland	400* 398
France	278* 330*
Greece	117 296
Honduras	17* 57*
India	1 33
Iran	55 62
Ireland	215 300*
Israel	137* 208
Italy	225 236
Japan	242 571
Kenya	4.2 37
Kuwait	478 487
Lebanon	147 540*
Liberia	6 152
Mexico	84 276*
Netherlands	325 614
Nigeria	7 79
Pakistan	8 66
Paraguay	20 67
Philippines	19 43
Poland	207 241
Puerto Rico	162 549*
Qatar	2,041 316*
Saudi Arabia	32 29
S. Korea	96 400
Soviet Union	143 390*
Sweden	370 1,005
Thailand	17 129
Turkey	54 101
Uganda	7 20
U.K.	390 716
U.S.A.	623 2,048
W. Germany	300* 332*

*1970 figures *1976 figures

Pictures in This Issue

r. = right; l. = left; c. = center; t. = top; b. = bottom

COVER: Will McBride
Page 3: Michael O'Brien/Archive t.r.; Michael K. Nichols b.r.; Walter Chappell c.r.; Willy Puchner c.l.; Manfred Kage b.l.; Roland Pfeiffer t.l.
Page 8: Michael K. Nichols t.; Will McBride b.
SOUTH: Michael O'Brien/Archive: 15-39
PALIO: Will McBride: 42,43,45t.,45 (2nd from b.),47b. (both),48,49

Terje Gustavsen: 44,46-47t.,46b
 Roland Pfeiffer: 45 (2nd from t.), 45b.
PROTOZOA: Manfred Kage / Peter Arnold: 52-59
HUNGARY: Leonard Freed/Magnum: 62-65,68-71,72-73t.,73b. (both),74,77t
 Willy Puchner: 66-67,75,77b.
 Bela Kasa: 72b.
 Christoph Blumrich: 80
FLAGS: Anders Holmquist: 83 (insets), 86-88
 Nicholas Vreeland: 82-83
 Tony Costa: 84-85
FATHY MOSQUE: Walter Chappell: 90-97
GORILLAS: Michael K. Nichols: 100-113
 Bob Conrad: 116

Date Due

46586

Pam:91(08):(*3)
1981
Fitzhugh
SIX

Sixteenth-century arctic site
reexplored.


DATE LOANED	BORROWER'S NAME	DATE DUE

46586

Pam:91(08):(*3)
1981
Fitzhugh
SIX

Sixteenth-century arctic site
reexplored.

BOREAL INSTITUTE FOR NORTHERN STUDIES, LIBRARY
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T6G 2E9
CANADA



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
University of Alberta Library

<https://archive.org/details/sixteenthcentury00unse>

University of Alberta Library



0 1620 0338 4912